

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A polymer complex comprising the reaction product of one or more polymers having a terminal or pendant hydroxyl group, or a terminal or pendent carboxyl group, or combinations thereof, with at least one metal complex and at least one alkyl phosphate.
2. (Original) The polymer complex of claim 1, wherein said metal complex is metal orthoester.
3. (Original) The polymer complex of claim 2, wherein said metal orthoester has the formula metal(OR)₄, wherein each of the four R groups is independently an alkyl group.
4. (Original) The polymer complex of claim 3, wherein said alkyl group is a C₁ to C₈ alkyl group.
5. (Original) The polymer complex of claim 3, wherein said alkyl group is a C₃ to C₄ alkyl group.
6. (Original) The polymer complex of claim 2, wherein said metal orthoester is tetraisopropyltitanate.
7. (Currently amended) The polymer complex of claim 1, wherein said alkyl phosphate is a monoalkyl phosphate having the formula R₁PO(OH)₂ ~~or and a dialkylphosphate~~ dialkyl phosphate having the formula (R₂O)(R₃O)PO(OH), wherein each of R₁, R₂ and R₃ is independently an alkyl.
8. (Original) The polymer complex of claim 7, wherein said alkyl group is a C₁ to C₁₀ alkyl group

9. (Original) The polymer complex of claim 7, wherein said alkyl group is a C₁ to C₅ alkyl group.

10. (Original) The polymer complex of claim 1, wherein said alkyl phosphate is amyl acid phosphate.

11. (Original) The polymer complex of claim 1, wherein said polymer is natural or synthetic polymer.

12. (Original) The polymer complex of claim 1, wherein said polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyurethane, polyurethane-urea, polyamide, polyester, polyacrylate, nitrocellulose and ketone-formaldehyde copolymer.

13. (Original) An adhesion promoting agent in an ink or coating composition comprising the reaction product of one or more polymers having a terminal or pendant hydroxyl group, or a terminal or pendent carboxyl group, or combinations thereof, with at least one metal complex, and at least one alkyl phosphate.

14. (Original) The adhesion promoting agent of claim 13 wherein said agent also promotes viscosity stability in an ink or coating composition.

15. (Original) The agent of claim 13, wherein said metal complex is metal orthoester.

16. (Original) The agent of claim 15, wherein said metal orthoester has the formula metal(OR)₄, wherein each of the four R groups is independently an alkyl group.

17. (Original) The agent of claim 16, wherein said alkyl group is a C₁ to C₈ alkyl group.

18. (Original) The agent of claim 16, wherein said alkyl group is a C₃ to C₄ alkyl group.

19. (Original) The agent of claim 15, wherein said metal orthoester is tetraisopropyltitanate.

20. (Currently amended) The agent of claim 13, wherein said alkyl phosphate is a monoalkyl phosphate having the formula $R_1PO(OH)_2$ ~~or~~ and a ~~dialkylphosphate~~ dialkyl phosphate having the formula $(R_2O)(R_3O)PO(OH)$, wherein each of R_1 , R_2 and R_3 is independently an alkyl.

21. (Original) The agent of claim 20, wherein said alkyl group is a C_1 to C_{10} alkyl group

22. (Original) The agent of claim 20, wherein said alkyl group is a C_1 to C_5 alkyl group.

23. (Original) The agent of claim 13, wherein said alkyl phosphate is amyl acid phosphate.

24. (Original) The agent of claim 13, wherein said polymer is natural or synthetic polymer.

25. (Original) The agent of claim 13, wherein said polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyurethane, polyurethane-urea, polyamide, polyester, polyacrylate, nitrocellulose and ketone-formaldehyde copolymer.

26. (Original) An ink or coating composition containing an adhesion promoting agent comprising the reaction product of one or more polymers having a terminal or pendant hydroxyl group, or a terminal or pendent carboxyl group, or combinations thereof, with at least one metal complex and at least one alkyl phosphate.

27. (Original) The composition of claim 26, wherein said metal complex is metal orthoester.

28. (Original) The composition of claim 27, wherein said metal orthoester has the

formula $\text{metal}(\text{OR})_4$, wherein each of the four R groups is independently an alkyl group.

29. (Original) The composition of claim 28, wherein said alkyl group is a C_1 to C_8 alkyl group.

30. (Original) The composition of claim 28, wherein said alkyl group is a C_3 to C_4 alkyl group.

31. (Original) The composition of claim 27, wherein said metal orthoester is tetraisopropyltitanate.

32. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 26, wherein said alkyl phosphate is a monoalkyl phosphate having the formula $\text{R}_1\text{PO}(\text{OH})_2$ ~~or and a dialkylphosphate~~ dialkyl phosphate having the formula $(\text{R}_2\text{O})(\text{R}_3\text{O})\text{PO}(\text{OH})$, wherein each of R_1 , R_2 and R_3 is independently an alkyl.

33. (Original) The composition of claim 32, wherein said alkyl group is a C_1 to C_{10} alkyl group

34. (Original) The composition of claim 32, wherein said alkyl group is a C_1 to C_5 alkyl group.

35. (Original) The composition of claim 25, wherein said alkyl phosphate is amyl acid phosphate.

36. (Original) The composition of claim 26, wherein said polymer is natural or synthetic polymer.

37. (Original) The composition of claim 26, wherein said polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyurethane, polyurethane-urea, polyamide, polyester, polyacrylate, nitrocellulose and ketone-formaldehyde copolymer.

38. (Original) A method of improving the adhesion performance of an ink or coating composition comprising adding to said composition an agent comprising the reaction product of one or more polymers having a terminal or pendant hydroxyl group, or a terminal or pendent carboxyl group, or combinations thereof, and at least one metal complex and at least one alkyl phosphate.

39. (Original) The method of claim 38 wherein the viscosity stability of an ink or coating composition is also enhanced.

40. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein said metal complex is metal orthoester.

41. (Original) The method of claim 40, wherein said metal orthoester has the formula $\text{metal}(\text{OR})_4$, wherein each of the four R groups is independently an alkyl group.

42. (Original) The method of claim 41, wherein said alkyl group is a C_1 to C_8 alkyl group.

43. (Original) The method of claim 41, wherein said alkyl group is a C_3 to C_4 alkyl group.

44. (Original) The method of claim 40, wherein said metal orthoester is tetraisopropylitanate.

45. (Currently amended) The method of claim 38, wherein said alkyl phosphate is a monoalkyl phosphate having the formula $\text{R}_1\text{PO}(\text{OH})_2$ ~~or~~ and a dialkylphosphate dialkyl phosphate having the formula $(\text{R}_2\text{O})(\text{R}_3\text{O})\text{PO}(\text{OH})$, wherein each of R_1 , R_2 and R_3 is independently an alkyl.

46. (Original) The method of claim 45, wherein said alkyl group is a C_1 to C_{10} alkyl group

47. (Original) The method of claim 45, wherein said alkyl group is a C_1 to C_5 alkyl group.

48. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein said alkyl phosphate is amyl acid phosphate.

49. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein said polymer is natural or synthetic polymer.

50. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein said polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyurethane, polyurethane-urea, polyamide, polyester, polyacrylate, nitrocellulose and ketone-formaldehyde copolymer.

51. (Original) A method of stabilizing the viscosity of an ink or coating composition comprising adding to said composition an agent comprising the reaction product of one or more polymers having a terminal or pendant hydroxyl group, or a terminal or pendent carboxyl group, or combinations thereof, with at least one metal complex and at least one alkyl phosphate.

52. (Original) The method of claim 51, wherein said metal complex is metal orthoester.

53. (Original) The method of claim 51, wherein said metal orthoester has the formula $\text{metal}(\text{OR})_4$, wherein each of the four R groups is independently an alkyl group.

54. (Original) The method of claim 53, wherein said alkyl group is a C_1 to C_8 alkyl group.

55. (Original) The method of claim 53, wherein said alkyl group is a C_3 to C_4 alkyl group.

56. (Original) The method of claim 51, wherein said metal orthoester is tetraisopropyltitanate.

57. (Currently amended) The method of claim 51, wherein said alkyl phosphate is a monoalkyl phosphate having the formula $\text{R}_1\text{PO}(\text{OH})_2$ ~~or~~ and a dialkylphosphate dialkyl phosphate having the formula $(\text{R}_2\text{O})(\text{R}_3\text{O})\text{PO}(\text{OH})$, wherein each of R_1 , R_2 and R_3 is

independently an alkyl.

58. (Original) The method of claim 57, wherein said alkyl group is a C₁ to C₁₀ alkyl group.

59. (Original) The method of claim 57, wherein said alkyl group is a C₁ to C₅ alkyl group.

60. (Original) The method of claim 51, wherein said alkyl phosphate is amyl acid phosphate.

61. (Original) The method of claim 51, wherein said polymer is natural or synthetic polymer.

62. (Original) The method of claim 51, wherein said polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyurethane, polyurethane-urea, polyamide, polyester, polyacrylate, nitrocellulose and ketone-formaldehyde copolymer.